GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Ease of Doing Business –Procedure for issue of online Transit Permits under the provisions of relevant Acts and Rules - Instructions for issue of permission to the Applicants for issue of online transit permits after issue of felling permission for Trees other than Red Sanders, Sandal wood & Rose wood and in Scheduled Areas of the State- Orders -Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 45 **Dated: 10-08-2017**

Read the following:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.58, EFS& T (Section-II) Department, Dated: 8-6-2016
2. PCCF & HoFF, A.P, Lr Rc No.12180/2015/FCA-4, Dated.7-6-2017
3. G.O. Rt. No.138, EFS& T (Section-II) Department, Dated:25-7-2017
4. PCCF & HoFF, A.P, Lr Rc No.12180/2015/FCA-4, Dated.9-8-2017

ORDER:

1. In the G.Os. 1st & 3rd read above, orders were issued to accord Online Tree Felling Permission for the purpose of establishment of new Industries to facilitate "Ease of Doing Business" in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Accordingly, an online web portal was developed for according online felling permission and for receipt of the required fees online, using the services of payment gateways.

2. As per the Andhra Pradesh Forest Act, 1967 and Andhra Pradesh (Forest Produce) Transit Rules, 1970, movement of certain timber and forest produce requires "Transit Permit" before the timber / forest produce are moved from one place to another. Accordingly, in para-28 of the G.O. 1st read above, it was mentioned that for issuing of Transit Permits the provisions of AP Forest Produce Transit Rules and the instructions/Circulars issued by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests shall be followed. For the "Ease of Doing Business" it is necessary that the process of issue of "Transit Permit" should also be made online as was done for issue of online felling permission in the G.Os 1st & 3rd read above.

3. Therefore to facilitate the process of issue of online transit permits to the Industrial Establishments for whom online felling permissions are accorded as per the G.Os read above, the following instructions are issued. These instructions, however, do not in any way affect the Statutory Acts, Rules and Regulations relating to the management of trees on non-forest lands, but are intended to expedite the issue of transit permits. These instructions shall not be applicable to the movement of timber / forest produce that are felled from forest areas (as classified in Government Records), from lands situated in Scheduled Areas of the State and to the felled material obtained from Red Sanders, Sandalwood and Rosewood Trees for which the existing procedure shall be followed. Further, no online transit permit is required for movement of species as notified under Schedule II of AP Forest Produce Transit Rules obtained from the lands situated in areas other than the forest areas. The procedure for issue of transit permits in all other types of lands and all other species, other than those mentioned at Paragraph-3 above shall be as follows:-

    a. The detailed procedure covering all applicable steps from submission of online application for issue of online transit permit is published on Department's website (www.forests.ap.gov.in).

    b. A comprehensive list of documents to be submitted as part of the application is mentioned on the web site. (www.forests.ap.gov.in).

    c. Clear timelines are notified on the web site. (www.forests.ap.gov.in).

    d. The applicants shall be able to fill up and submit application for registration of Property mark and application for issue of online transit permits in Form-E and pay all associated fees online using the services of payment gateways.

e. Applications will be processed and approved online by the Competent Authority and the applicant will also be able to track the status of the application online.

4. Procedure for grant of Online Transit Permits:-

a. After receipt of felling permission, the applicant shall submit application to the concerned Divisional Forest Officer for registration or renewal of Property mark in Form III of AP Forest Produce Transit Rules by submitting online a clearly visible facsimile of the Property mark. Each application for registration or renewal of property mark must be accompanied with online payment of Rs.25/-.

b. On receipt of the application for registration/renewal of property mark, the Divisional Forest Officer shall approve or reject/cancel the same online clearly indicating the reasons for rejection / cancellation, within a period of 15 days.

c. Against the order of rejection / cancellation, an online appeal lies to the concerned Conservator of Forests within a period of 15 days from the date of issue of rejection / cancellation order by the Divisional Forest Officer. The Conservator of forests has to dispose the appeal online within a period of 15 days.

d. After receipt of approval of the Property mark, the applicant has to complete the felling and conversion process and submit online the detailed measurements / quantities of the logs / fuel wood / root wood / faggot wood etc. obtained in Form–E, at Annexure-I of this order.

e. On receipt of information online in Form-E, the Divisional Forest Officer shall randomly allot (computerized allocation) one of the Forest Section Officers (FSO) of the concerned Range or nearby range, if necessary, for physical verification of the felled material within 3 days of uploading of the data by the applicant in Form-E and communicate the same to the Forest Range Officer (FRO) having jurisdiction & the concerned Forest Section Officer followed with SMS /E-mail to the applicant.

f. It is to be ensured by the Divisional Forest Officer that the Forest Section Officer who checks enumeration earlier for issue of felling permission is not sent again for verification of the felled material for the purpose of issue of transit permit. Further, the same Forest Section Officer shall not inspect that Industrial Establishment consecutively either for issue of felling permission or transit permission.

g. The Forest Section Officer allotted for inspection shall physically check 100% of the felled material as mentioned in Form-E, and Forest Range Officer has to complete the test checking (10%). If the area exceeds 2 Ha, the Sub- Divisional Forest Officer / Divisional Forest Officer shall also do the test checking (10%) as per computer randomized list (from Form-E), within 15 days (both checking and test checking) and the Forest Range Officer shall upload the list and the inspection report online.

h. After physical checking and test checking of the materials listed in Form-E, the required number of e-Transit Permits to be issued shall be recommended to the Divisional Forest Officer along with the inspection reports by the Forest Range Officer / Sub- Divisional Forest Officer online within 48 hours.

i. The Divisional Forest Officer after examining the inspection reports will communicate proceedings within 3 days for issue of Transit Permits indicating the amount to be paid towards permit fees and forward the same to the applicant by E-Mail and a SMS alert will also be sent. A permit fee of Rs.50/- will be charged for issue of one transit permit.

j. On payment of the permit fee, required number of Transit Permits shall be issued to the concerned applicant online clearly indicating the validity period of the transit permits. Whenever permits in Form-II at Annexure-II of this order are issued more than (50) in numbers, the validity of the permits should be from the

date of issue to the 31st December of that year and validity period be super scribed on Form-II permit.

k. On receipt of the required number of Transit permits by the applicant, the concerned Forest Section Officer having jurisdiction over the area will put the Government transit mark on all the logs within a period of 15 days and the applicant has to also affix the registered property mark on each of the logs before signing of the hard copy of the downloaded transit permit.

l. After affixing of the Government transit mark by the concerned Forest Section Officer and affixing of the registered property mark by the applicant, the applicant shall download the transit permit and enter the details of the material to be transported in Form-III at Annexure-II of this order and hand over the original signed copy to the transporter (Lorry driver etc.) indicating the validity period of transit. Thereafter the applicant should furnish 2 numbers signed copies of the same online as well as by post to the concerned Forest Range Officer and Divisional Forest Officer

m. If aggrieved by any order of the Divisional Forest Officer, the applicant may prefer an appeal before the Conservator of Forests (CF) having jurisdiction within 15 days and the CF shall dispose the appeal within a period of 15 days from the date of receipt of the appeal.

n. All Online Transit Permits along with the Inspection Reports shall be posted on the website, which can be downloaded by the applicant.

o. Inspection Reports shall be available in public domain for viewing by the third party.

5. All the Divisional Forest Officers shall follow the above instructions and ensure that online transit permits are granted within the stipulated time. The required formats (Form-E, Form-II & Form-III) are at Annexure –I, II & III of this order.

6. Any violations committed shall attract the provisions of AP Forest Act, 1967 and rules made there under.

7. All Industrial Establishments requiring tree felling permissions under G.O MS No.58 and for transit permission as above, shall mandatorily apply online.

8. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh shall take further follow up action to ensure to implement the orders issued herein.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

G.ANANTHA RAMU
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

Copy to
1. The Secretary, Industries & Commerce (IP) Department
2. The Director of Industries and Commerce Department
3. All District Collectors
4. All Conservators of Forests in the State
5. The Managing Director of AP Forest Development Corporation
6. Member-Secretary, Pollution Control Board
7. The Chief Secretary to Government
8. The Members of SIPC / SIPB
9. The Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister
10. P. S to Minister (FES&T and Co-operation)

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE - I

FORM-E

Felled Meterial Register									
Forest Division:			**Forest Range:**						
Sl. No.	**Tree No. (as marked on tree during enumeration)**	**Species**	**Log No/ Stack No**	**Timber**			**Pole / Bamboo**		**Fuel / Root / Faggot Wood (L X 1.2 M X 1M)**
				M. Girth (g)	**Length**	**Volume= (g^2/16) X Length**	**Girth at Thick end (Cm)**	**Length**	**Volume (Cum.)**

ANNEXURE - II

FORM-II

Permit No. **Book Number : Not Applicable**

(e-generated)

TRANSPORT BY **VEHICLE No.**

1. By whom issued :

i. Name :

ii. Designation :

2. To Whom Issued :

i. Name :

ii. Father's Name :

iii. Village :

iv. Mandal :

v. District :

3. Description of forest Produce

(Detailed measurement to given in the invoice enclosed)

i. Types of Produce : **TIMBER/POLES/FIREWOOD/BAMBOO CHARCOAL/MINOR FOREST PRODUCE**

ii. Species

iii. Numbers ( ) in words ( )

iv. Quantity ( ) Cmt.

v. Govt. transit mark / Private property mark ( ) in words

4. Place of consignment :

i. Locality :

ii. Village :

iii. Mandal :

iv. District :

5. Destination :

i. Locality :

ii. Village :

iii. Mandal :

iv. District :

6. Route of Transport :

7. Date & Time of issue of permit

i. Time :

ii. Date :

8. **Permit valid upto**

i. Time :

ii. Date :

9. Obligatory check points

Note: i. The Permit holder is advised to note that validity of permit is subject to Andhra Pradesh Forest Produce Transit Rules,1970.

ii. On reaching destination, in the forest produce should be got verified by nearest Forest Officer and attested.

iii. Any column in the permit if left blank, permit is treated as invalid.

Place :
Date :

Seal of the Office of Divisional Forest Offices

Signature and Designation of Issuing authority

(Endorsement of Obligatory check points)

	I	II
1. Place of check		
2. Name of the Tanedar	:	:
3. Date and time of check	:	:
4. Entry No. in the Check Post register	:	:
5. Signature and stamp of the Tanedar	:	:

ANNEXURE - III

FORM-III

Certificate of Registration

1. Name of the person registering :
2. Description of device or property mark :
3. Description and quantity of registered timber :
4. Date of registration or renewal :
5. Remarks :

Certified that ……..... residing at …… has registered/renewed the above device or property mark for the official year ending 31st March,20
(Official Seal)

Date : - - 20

Divisional Forest Officer

Note: The approved facsimile of the property mark to be pasted and stamped by the seal of the Divisional Forest Officer.